**Learning Outcomes for Module 6 Sensation and Perception**

Upon completion of this module students will be able to do the following:

1. Contrast sensation and perception, and explain the difference between bottom­up and top­down processing.

2. Distinguish between absolute and difference thresholds, and discuss whether we can sense and be affected by subliminal or unchanging stimuli.

3. Describe the characteristics of visible light, and explain the process by which the eye converts light energy into neural messages.

4. Discuss the different levels of processing that occur as information travels from the retina to the brain’s cortex.

5. Define *parallel processing,* and discuss its role in visual information processing.

6. Explain how the Young­Helmholtz and opponent­process theories help us understand color vision.

7. Describe the auditory process, including the stimulus input, the structure and function of the ear, and how sounds are located.

8. Describe the sense of touch, and distinguish between kinesthesis and the vestibular sense.

9. State the purpose of pain, and describe the biopsychosocial approach to pain.

10. Describe the senses of taste and smell, and comment on the nature of sensory interaction.

11. Describe Gestalt psychology’s contribution to our understanding of perception, and identify principles of perceptual grouping in form perception.

12. Explain the binocular and monocular cues we use to perceive depth.

13. Explain how perceptual constancies help us to organize our sensations into meaningful perceptions.

14. Describe the contributions of restored vision, sensory deprivation, and perceptual adaptation research to our understanding of the nature­nurture interplay in our perception.

15. Define *perceptual set,* and explain why the same stimulus can evoke different perceptions in different contexts.

16. (Thinking Critically) Identify the three most testable forms of ESP, and explain why most research psychologists remain skeptical of ESP claims